

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1.-20. (cancelled)
21. (currently amended) A cross-linked beadlet form having a core region and a surface region, wherein the core region contains, in a high concentration, one or more active ingredients selected from the group of a fat-soluble vitamin active material, a carotenoid and a polyunsaturated fatty acid, and wherein the surface region contains less than 10% ~~or less than 5%~~ of the total active ingredient content, the cross-linked beadlet form being obtained by:
- (i) forming an emulsion containing the active ingredients, an emulsifier and a reducing sugar,
  - (ii) converting the emulsion to a dry particulate form by coating the emulsion droplets with a finely dispersed powder selected from the group consisting of polysaccharides such as starch and modified starch, calcium silicate or of a mixture of calcium silicate with one of the following mixture components: microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium silicate, magnesium oxide, stearic acid, calcium stearate, magnesium stearate, hydrophilic silicic acid and kaolin, and optionally drying the coating, and
  - (iii) heat treating said dry particulate form at a temperature in the range of from 90°C to 140°C for a time period of from 30 seconds to 30 minutes or from 1 minute to 10 minutes or from 3 minutes to 7 minutes.
22. (currently amended) A cross-linked beadlet form according to claim 21 containing one or more active ingredients selected from the group of Vitamin A in a total concentration in the range of from 800,000 IU vitamin A/g beadlet to 1,500,000 IU vitamin A/g beadlet, vitamin D in a total concentration in the range of from 100,000 IU vitamin D/g beadlet to 500,000 IU vitamin D/g beadlet, vitamin E in a

total concentration in the range of from 50 % to 75 %, a carotenoid in a total concentration in the range of from 5 to 20% and a polyunsaturated fatty acid in a total concentration in the range of from 5 to 50%, ~~wherein the surface region contains less than 10 % or less than 5 % of the total active ingredient content.~~

23. (previously presented) The cross-linked beadlet form according to claim 22 having the following components: 30 % to 45 % of vitamin A, 0% to 2% of vitamin D<sub>3</sub>, 5 % to 15 % of 6-ethoxy-1,2-dihydro-2,2,4-trimethylquinoline, as emulsifier 25 % to 35 % of gelatine, as reducing sugar 5 % to 10 % of fructose, 2 % to 10 % of glycerine, 5 % to 10 % of calcium silicate, 0 % to 25 % of corn starch, 0 % to 1 % of edible fat, and water.
24. (new) The cross-linked beadlet form according to claim 21, wherein the surface region contains less than 5% of the total active ingredient content.